

Jesus Fed a Crowd

**Matthew 14; Mark 6;
Luke 9; John 6**

What did Jesus teach when He was on earth?

Jesus taught about God and His kingdom. He taught that all scripture is about Him.

In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.
Matthew 5:16

Story Point:

Jesus miraculously fed thousands of people with five loaves and two fish.



PREPARE HEARTS

- ☐ Starter Activity - Welcome and Question of the Day
- ☐ 11:00 - Kids Worship



ACTIVATE HEARTS

- ☐ Lesson Review - Jesus Fed a Crowd
- ☐ Discussion Questions
- ☐ Group Demonstration: Our Cup Overflows



ENGAGE HEARTS

- ☐ Group Game: Ball Balance Run
- ☐ Share and Care Prayer Time
- ☐ Group Activity: Gratitude Chain

SHEPHERD GUIDE

The feeding of the 5,000 is the only public miracle, other than Jesus' resurrection, recorded in all four Gospels—Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. We should pause and ask, "Why this one? What about this miracle made it so unforgettable that no Gospel writer could leave it out?"

We can get a clue toward the importance of the miracle through its framing in the book of Luke. The miracle sits between two key questions: "Who is this?" (Luke 9:9), asked by a bewildered and disturbed King Herod, and "Who do you say that I am?" (Luke 9:20), asked by Jesus of His disciples immediately following the miracle.

Throughout the book of Luke, Jesus declares important truths during meals. From the dinners at Pharisees' houses to the last supper, meals in the book of Luke often carry significant meaning. And this miracle of feeding the 5,000 is no different. It's not just a moment of compassion—it's a moment of revelation and foreshadowing. It's the answer to the questions posed by Herod and Jesus Himself.

It's fitting that Luke ends the section with Peter's declaration: "You are the Christ of God." That's where every true encounter with Jesus should lead. The one who takes, blesses, breaks, and gives is not merely a miracle-worker. He is the Messiah—the one who fills us, sustains us, and saves us. And when we recognize Him as such, our only right response is the same as Peter's worship and confession declaring, "You are the Christ."

This week, lead kids to be ready to answer the question, "Who is Jesus," by recognizing Him as Messiah and Lord.

REMINDER: Our VIP meeting is from 10:20 - 10:30 in C1. Your supply bin will be in your classroom.



GRADES 1-2

KNOW + LOVE + FOLLOW + SHARE

Oct. 4, 2026
2nd Service

MAIN TAKEAWAYS: We want our kids to:

*KNOW that Jesus is the Messiah and the Bread of life.

TRUST Jesus to provide for all their needs; including their greatest need - forgiveness and eternal life!

*LOOK for ways to serve God with what they have; however small it may seem.



As you arrive and children come and go - Welcome them by name and invite them to play with you and the others. Use this time to get to know your kids - ask them about their week, about their likes and dislikes and about their school, family and friends.

Ways to connect - Play a game from the closet, color or draw together, build with legos/blocks, etc.

When most kids have arrived for 2nd service (by 10:50ish), ask them to clean up the toys and find a seat at one of the tables to begin the class.

**Option - Pen Pal Kit!!*



PREPARE HEARTS

Question of the Day:

Starter Activity

Welcome and
Question of the
Day

Have you ever run out of something you need? Maybe you were hosting a party and ran out of napkins. Or your family was having hamburgers for dinner, and you ran out of ketchup. [Allow responses.]

There was no ketchup in the story we'll hear today, but there was something the people needed: food. A large crowd had been listening to Jesus and they were hungry. But there was nowhere for them to get food. We will discover that Jesus miraculously fed thousands of people with five loaves and two fish.



KIDS
WORSHIP

11:00

Kids Worship for Pre-K - 4th Grade in LG2.



ACTIVE MINDS

You can use the REVIEW VIDEO on your TV and / or use this lesson as a review of what was taught 1st service.

Jesus Fed a Crowd

Bibles,
Review Video –
Bible story on TV

Open your Bible to Matthew 14; Mark 6; Luke 9 or John 6 . You can use the Kids Sermon Outline as you go through the story.

KIDS SERMON OUTLINE:

Jesus cares about both our physical and spiritual needs. (John 6:35): Jesus healed the sick, taught the people, and fed them. His compassion shows that God cares about our whole selves—our bodies and our hearts.

Jesus invites His followers to participate in His work. (Matt. 14:16-19): Like the disciples helped distribute the food, believers today get to partner with Jesus to serve others, share His love, and witness His power.

Jesus provides abundantly—more than we could ever supply on our own. (John 10:10): The overflow of twelve baskets teaches that Jesus not only meets our needs but gives abundant life—a life filled with His love, joy, and purpose that we can share with others.

Jesus had been teaching and healing people. He got into a boat with His disciples to go to a quiet place to rest.

But many people saw Jesus and His disciples leaving. Crowds ran ahead and met them when they reached the shore! Jesus looked at the large crowd of people and had compassion for them. He cared for them like a shepherd cares for his sheep. He taught them about God's kingdom and healed those who were sick.

As the day went on, the disciples came to Jesus. "It's getting late," they said. "Send the people away so they can find food."

Jesus said, "You give them something to eat."

The disciples were surprised. They said, "We would have to work for months to buy enough food for everyone!"

Andrew, one of the disciples, said, "There's a boy here with five small loaves of bread and two fish, but that's not enough for so many people."

Jesus told the disciples to have the people sit down in groups. Jesus took the loaves and fish, looked up to heaven, and gave thanks. Then He broke the bread and fish into pieces and gave them to the disciples to pass out.

Something miraculous happened. The bread and fish never ran out! The people—about 5,000 men plus women and children—ate as much as they wanted. When everyone was full, the disciples gathered 12 baskets full of leftovers.

The people saw this miracle and said, "This really is the Prophet who is to come into the world!"

Later, Jesus taught the crowd again. "Don't work for food that will only last a short time," He said. "Work for the food that lasts forever. I am the Bread of Life. Whoever comes to Me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in Me will never be thirsty."

CHRIST CONNECTION

Jesus miraculously fed thousands of people with five loaves and two fish. This miracle showed that He is God's Son. Jesus is the Bread of Life. He meets our greatest need—not just for food, but for forgiveness and eternal life with God.

What did the people need? How did Jesus meet that need? [Allow responses.] Jesus miraculously fed thousands of people with five loaves and two fish. This miracle showed that He is God's Son.

Jesus is the Bread of Life. He meets our greatest need—not just for food, but for forgiveness and eternal life with God. **How has Jesus met this need?** [Allow responses.] Jesus is fully God and fully human. He lived the perfect life. No one else has ever done that! Jesus is the only person who has ever lived who did not deserve to die. We are sinful, and the Bible tells us that the payment for sin is death. Because of sin we are spiritually dead, but Jesus came to give us new life. Jesus willingly died on the cross to take our place. But Jesus didn't stay dead. No way! Jesus is alive, and He gives new life to everyone who follows Him in faith. This is the best news ever, and it's worth celebrating with our whole hearts!



Discussion

Discussion
questions listed
here

Ask the following questions. Lead the group to discuss.

How did the miracle of Jesus feeding the crowd show that He is God's Son? Jesus did something no man could do. He took a small amount of food and fed a crowd of thousands. Through this miracle and the other miracles Jesus performed during His earthly ministry, He showed that He is God's Son and has power over everything. (Option: Choose a volunteer to read Matthew 28:18.)

What is every person's greatest need? Every person's greatest need is forgiveness from sin and eternal life. The Bible tells us that every person has sinned and the payment for our sin is death. God sent Jesus to take the punishment our sin deserves so that we can be forgiven and have eternal life through Him. (Option: Choose a volunteer to read Romans 6:23.)

How did Jesus meet our greatest need? Jesus is the only one who can meet our greatest need. The Bible tells us no one can come to the Father except through Jesus. Through His death on the cross, Jesus paid the price for our sin, and through His resurrection, He conquered death. Everyone who trusts in Him will have eternal life with God. (Option: Choose a volunteer to read John 11:25-26.)



Our Cup Overflows

- Small paper cup
- Big plastic bowl
- Pitcher (water from sink)

Display a small paper cup and ask the kids to imagine being thirsty after playing outside in the sun all afternoon. Would this one little cup be enough to quench their thirst?

Hold the cup over a bowl and pour some water into the cup from a pitcher. Continue pouring until the water overflows.

SAY: We are a bit like an empty cup, and we can't fill ourselves up. We need Jesus to fill us with His love and give us new life. When we come to Jesus and believe in Him, He fills our hearts with His love and life. He forgives us and makes us new. But Jesus doesn't stop there! He gives us more than enough. His love overflows—it fills us so much that we can share it with others. When Jesus miraculously fed thousands of people with five loaves and two fish, He didn't give everyone just one bite. He gave the crowd so much that there were twelve baskets of leftovers! Jesus' love and power never run out. No matter how many people come to Him, there's always enough for everyone! In John 6:35, Jesus said that He is the bread of life, and everyone who comes to Him will have what they need and more.

(Read John 10:10.) Jesus said He came to give us abundant life—a life that is full and good! What do you think it means to have an abundant life? [Allow responses.] An abundant life means knowing God, being close to Him, and remembering that you are made in His image. It means your life has purpose, and you don't have to feel guilty or afraid about the wrong things you've done because Jesus forgives you. Even when life gets hard, we can trust that God is fixing and healing His good world. One day, He'll make everything new again—and we'll be full of His love and joy forever!



Ball Balance Run

- 4 buckets
- Balls
- Plastic cups

Form two teams and instruct the teams to line up.

Place one bucket at the starting line filled with balls and place the other bucket at the finish line.

Give the first kids in line a plastic cup. On "Go" they will grab a ball, place it in the cup, hold the cup on their head, and run to their team's basket. They'll drop the ball in the basket, run back, and the next kid can run.

The first team to get all their table tennis balls to their basket at the finish line wins.

SAY: You all did great! That game took teamwork—you had to move carefully, stay focused, and work together to reach your goal. In our Bible story, Jesus asked His disciples to help pass out the bread and fish to the people. They worked together to share what Jesus had provided, and everyone had more than enough to eat! Jesus invites all of us to be part of the work He's doing in the world. The disciples didn't perform the miracle—Jesus did—but they got to be a part of it by serving others. When we work together as His followers, God uses our efforts to bless people and show His amazing love!



Share and Care Prayer

Spend some time as a class sharing about:

- Our Global Partner Family of the Month (**The Smith Family**)
- Specific prayer requests from any of the kids about something going on in their own lives.

Have the class sit in a circle as you share and care for one another's needs. Ask for and share requests with one another. Review and follow up with any prayer requests from the chain made the week before. Use the Global Partner of the Month spotlight sheet (In the Pen Pal Kit) to talk about prayer requests from the Smith Family



Gratitude Chain

- Colored construction paper strips
- Stickers
- Markers
- Stapler
- Picture cards

Invite kids to sit around tables. Show them the supplies (colorful construction paper strips already pre-cut for them, stickers, markers, and a stapler you'll help with) and say: "We're going to build a giant paper chain to remember all the ways God takes care of us!"

Hold up the simple picture cards or draw quick doodles on a whiteboard as prompts: (a plate of food, a house, a family, a friend, a sunny sky, a bed).

Ask: "Did God give you food today? Raise your hand!" "Who has a family that loves you?" Let them call out answers and point to pictures of things that God has provided for them.

SAY: "Let's see how long we can make our chain - one loop for every way God provides!"

Give each child a few construction paper strips, stickers and markers. Let them use the stickers and draw pictures of things that God has given them. (House, sun, family, friends, food, etc.)

Help them staple each strip into a loop, looping through the last one to build the chain.

SAY: We can always count on God to provide for His children. Through Jesus, He provided for our greatest need—forgiveness and eternal life. Let's remember to praise God for all the ways He provides for us!